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U.S. Petern and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 10/786.434 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date 10/26/2004 First Named Inventor Donald E. Black **FORM** Art Unit Examiner Name Michael S. Chanbers (to be used for all correspondence after initial fixing) Attorney Docket Number 4012 Total Number of Pages in This Submission ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to TC Drawing(s) Fee Transmittal Form Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interierences Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition Amendment/Reply Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information **Provisional Application** After Final Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Affidavits/declaration(s) Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify Terminal Disclaimer below): Extension of Time Request Request for Refund Express Abandonment Request CD, Number of CD(s)_ Information Disclosure Statement Landscape Table on CD Remarks Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name JERRY SEMER Signature Printed name JERRY SEMPR Reg. No. 33, 087 Date November 30, 2005 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an epvelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: Signature Date November 30, 2005 **JERRY** Typed or printed name

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: DONALD E. BLACK

Serial No.: 10/766,434

Group No.: 3711

Filed: 01/26/2004

Con. No. 3611

Examiner: Michaels S. Chambers

Att. Doc. No. 4012

For: TRAINING BAT SYSTEM

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant petitions for a review of examiner's decision to make the office action of November 14, 2005 final.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this petition is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent Office on November 30, 2005

November 30, 2005

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REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Applicant petitions for a review of examiner's decision to make the office action of November 14, 2005 final. Applicant states that MPEP 706.07 clearly states that "before a final rejection is in order a clear issue should develop between the examiner and the applicant. Applicant states that no clear issue has developed between applicant and examiner. Applicant states that the office action of November 14, 2005 is based on a new search by the examiner that pulled off patents that were much closer to claimed invention than the patents put forth in the previous office action. Applicant states that there is a totally new primary reference and that all the secondary references are also new except for one secondary reference which deals with two claims of the twenty claims. Thus, no issue has really developed between 18 of the claims in the patent application, since applicant has not been able to make any argument or any amendments to his claims to get around the newly put forth references from a new search. Applicant would also like to point out that MPEP 706.07 (a) states that a second or any subsequent action on the merits in any application or patent involved in reexamination proceedings should not be made final if it includes a rejection on prior art not of record, of any claim amended to include limitations that should be reasonably have been expected to be claimed." In this case the

newly cited art is much closer than the previous art cited. This case involves a bat and the previous art cited before the office action of November 14, 2005 was of a baton and a flashlight. The Examiner has done a new search and has put forth several patents that have to do with baseball bats. These baseball bats are clearly closer art to the baseball bat claimed than the art of the previous office action. The examiner should have known that the claims would be easily amended just by more specifically describing the bat to get around the baton and flashlight. Applicant believes that he should have a right to make at least one argument and amendments to these claims before a final rejection is made. Applicant does not believe that there is any real issue between examiner and applicant because examiner has yet to hear applicant's arguments on the newly cited art.

Applicant does not believe, further, applicant is not 100% certain exactly what parts of the primary reference refer to what elements of the claim. Applicant needs to get clarification on this issue before he can even make his arguments. Thus, applicant believes that the arguments put forth by applicant in his answer to this office action will be substantially different to reflect the substantially different and closer art than the examiner has put forth. Applicant believes that he should have the right to present these

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arguments and the examiner should have the right to listen to them and make his decision upon these without having applicant fall within the very restrictive amendment practice as to amendments after final.

Respectfully Submitted

Jerry Semen

617 Crostnan Street

Fremont, Ohio 43420

(419) 332-2221

Registration No. 33,087